Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the title to read:

OXIDATIVE CONDITIONING COMPOSITIONS FOR METAL OXIDE LAYER AND APPLICATIONS THEREOF:

Please amend the specification by inserting a new section before the "Technical Field" as follows:

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of pending United States Patent Application No. 10/158,650, filed May 29, 2002; which is a divisional of United States Patent Application No. 08/989,694, filed December 12, 1997, which issued as U.S. Pat. No. 6,432,793.